

NEWS RELEASE

LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT
1801 'Q' STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68508

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LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES EMS WEEK EVENTS

The week of May 14 through 20, 2000 has been designated National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) week. The theme of this years recognition events is "**NEW CENTURY, NEW HOPE.**" During this week pre-hospital care providers are recognized for their life saving efforts and devotion to duty. The Lincoln Fire Department has planned several special events during EMS Week to recognize and emphasize the importance of EMS within our community.

On Monday, May 15, there will be a special recognition ceremony for the firefighters, Joe Frey, and his family that was involved in the rescue alarm at the AGP Grain Elevator on Sept. 27, 1999. Joe was an employee of AGP when he slipped and got his leg caught in an auger at that facility. The fire crews that will be present are T1, E4, E8, & T8 that worked on extrication. Fire Station #8 is hosting this ceremony with a lunch and award recognition starting at 11:30 a.m.

On Tuesday, May 16, firefighters will participate in a special blood donor program for EMS Week. Everyone in the community is invited to join the firefighters in giving a pint of blood to help our EMS providers. This year's drive will be held at Fire Station #1 at 18th & "Q" Streets. We will be utilizing the new mobile blood bank coach. Staff will be available to receive firefighter donors from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and the general public from 11:30 to 4:00 p.m. This event kicks off the S.O. S., Save Our Summer blood drive.

This year's theme is, "**Be a Member of the Life Saving Department**". Those who bring in a first-time donor will receive a special S.O.S. Community Blood Bank tee-shirt as will the donor. There will also be a drawing for prizes and, as always, refreshments will be served. Froggy 98 radio will also be on hand to help kick off the summer blood donor campaign.

On Friday, May 19th there will be an awards ceremony held at Fire Station #1 at 18th & "Q" Streets at 8:00 a.m. to recognize those fire department crews who participated in saving a life in 1999. Members of the engine crews who participated in the "save" will receive a "*Phoenix Award*" in recognition for giving someone another chance at life. During 1999 sixteen (16) Lincoln citizens who were clinically dead were revived by EMS teams and eventually released from the hospital. The 911 Center call takers and dispatcher who were part of these life saving teams will also be recognized at the award ceremony. Coffee, and refreshments will be available for all at this recognition event.

On Saturday, May 20th Fire Department crews will be at the Southpointe Pavilions from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to demonstrate for the public life saving equipment carried on Lincoln's fourteen paramedic engines. A free blood pressure clinic will be available for those who visit the displays.

And don't forget the Lincoln Fire Department annual "Fun Run/Zoo Day" on Saturday, May 20th at the Folsom Children's Zoo. Registration is at 9:30 a.m. and the Fun Run/Walk will start at 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Deputy Chief Bill Madison 441-8371 for more information.